



image

246

DIGITAL
EDITION

SPAWN



Kudrinski
McFarlane

+fco



PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

After Jim saves Sara from the darkness, Sara is startled to find him in her bed the morning after. Instead of allowing herself to feel guilty for what, most likely, transpired the previous evening, Sara decides to accept her happiness. She and Jim are on a new page, and appear to be moving forward as a couple. It's something Sara's always dreamed of.

Frustrated by being in the dark all the time, Marc goes on the offense, demanding answers about the woman in Jim's wedding photo. Various people have been after Marc for his association to Jim, leaving him unsettled. He forces Jim to reveal his dark secret, and discovers Jim is Spawn.

Back at her apartment, a possessed Sara plots to murder the man she loves.



Jim Downing (Spawn) – A man whose past is shrouded in mystery, and connected intimately to the very fabric of the Spawn mythos, Jim is the world's newest Hellspawn...and so much more. Having spent years in a deep coma, Jim's main drive is piecing together the fragments of the man he was, in an effort to discover the man he truly is.



Sara Johnston – When Jim woke from his coma (issue #185), Sara was the first person to greet him on the other side of the darkness. A woman of strong faith, Sara's connection to Jim will test her in ways she could never imagine.



Marc Rosen – A would-be reporter-turned-media manager and confidant of Jim Downing, Marc views Jim as his ticket to a better life – though the price for that success may be far greater than Marc knows.

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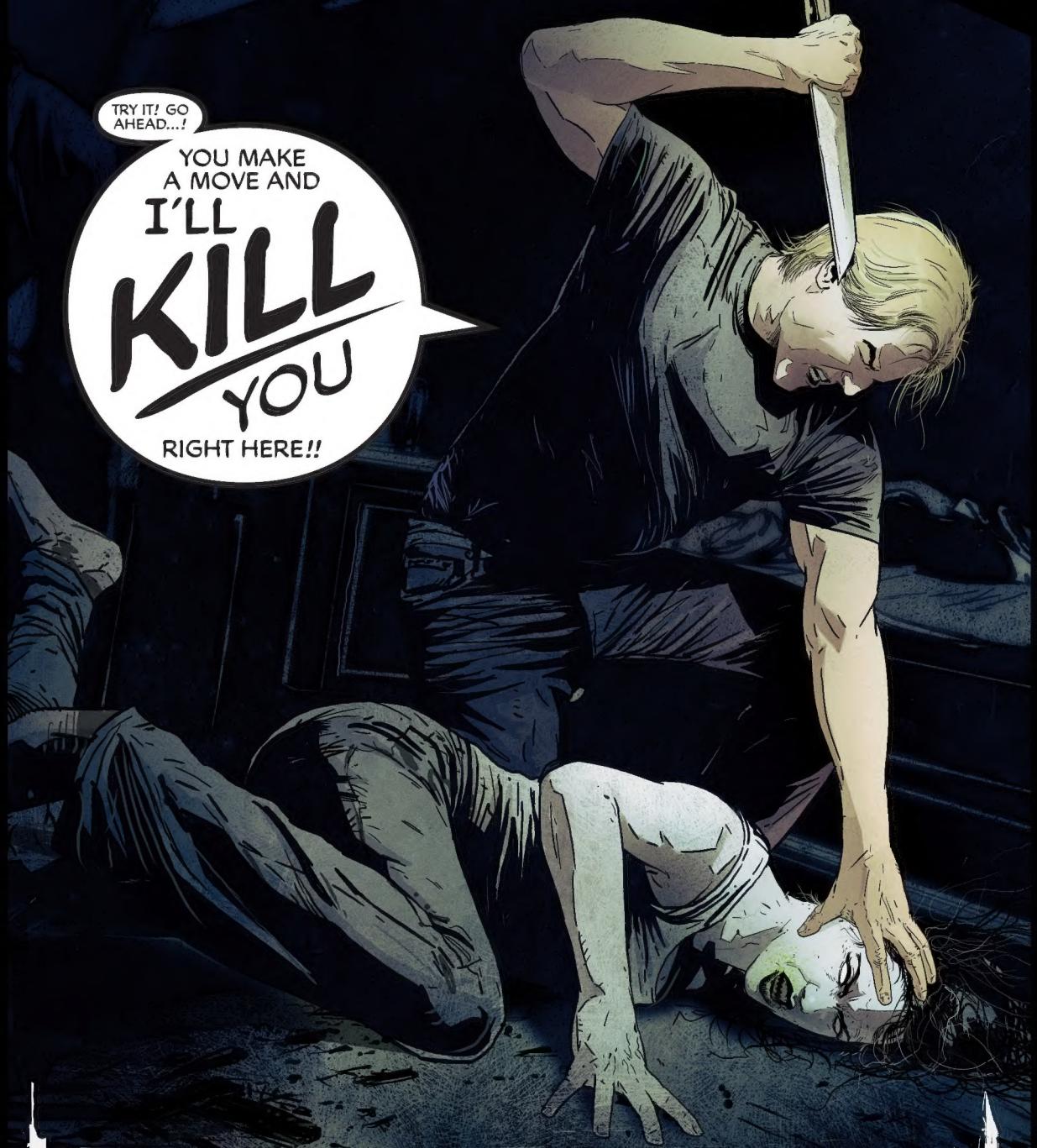
Publisher for Image Comics
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image 
TODD McFARLANE
PRODUCTIONS
SPAWN.COM

TRY IT! GO AHEAD...!

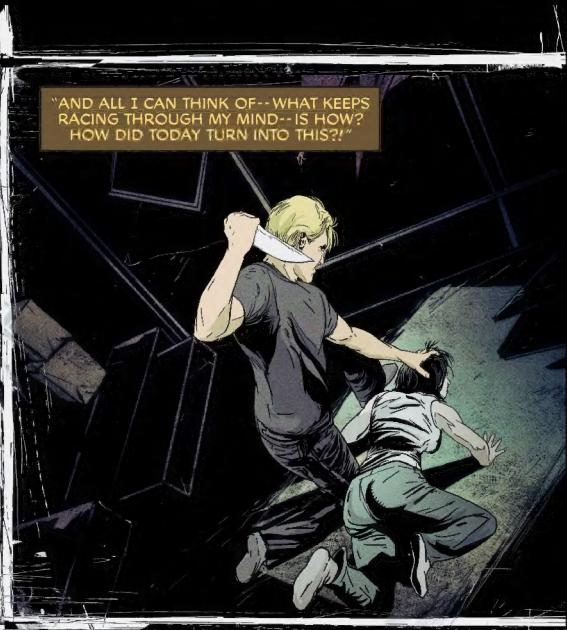
YOU MAKE
A MOVE AND
I'LL
KILL
YOU
RIGHT HERE!!



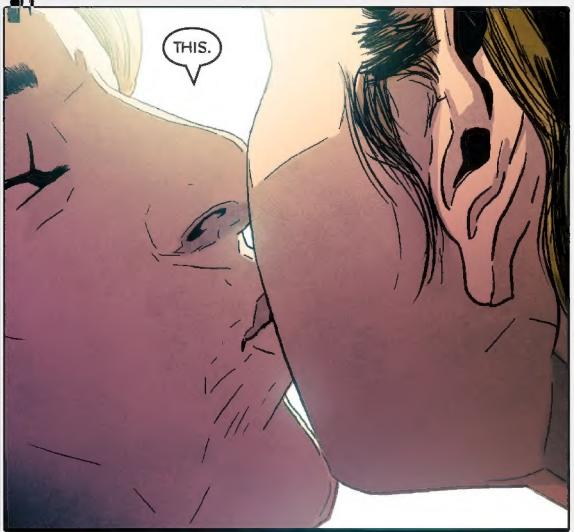
YOU
HEAR ME,
SARA?! I'LL
GUT YOU
BEFORE
YOU EVEN
MOVE!

"WHEN TODAY STARTED, IT HAD BEEN MY BEST DAY SINCE WAKING FROM MY COMA. NOTHING HAD EVEN COME CLOSE TO IT. BUT NOW--I WAS ABOUT TO MURDER THE WOMAN I LOVED!"





Nine Hours Earlier





Eight and a Half Hours Ago.



Eight Hours Ago.



NOW
OPEN.

THIS IS WHY
I'VE BEEN DISTANT--
AND HID THINGS FROM
YOU. I JUST COULDN'T
FIND THE RIGHT TIME TO
LET YOU KNOW.



SO AS
MUCH AS
YOU'VE BEEN
DEALING WITH...
I'VE BEEN DOING
THE SAME
THING.

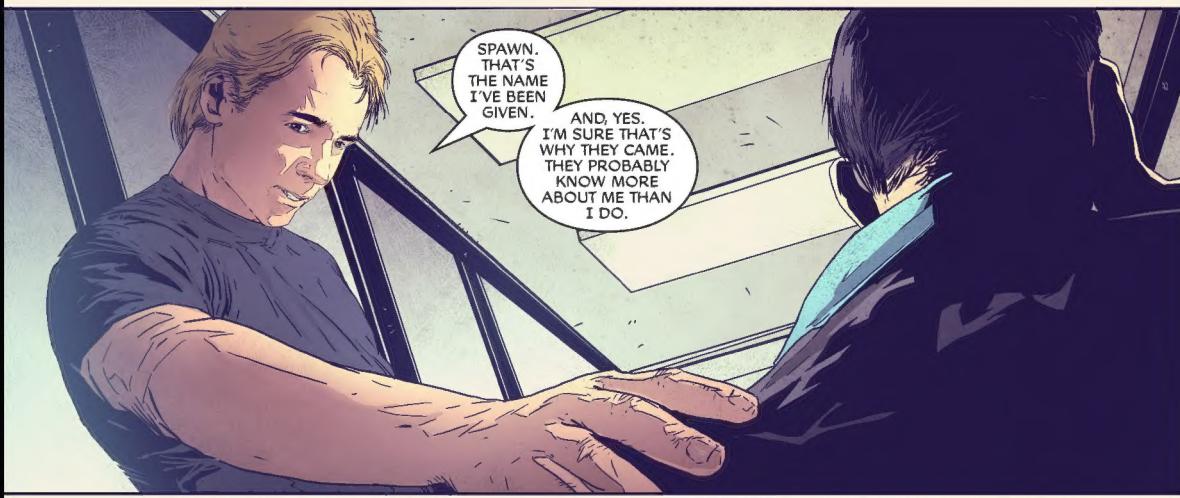
THE
FOUNDATION?
YOUR POWERS?
WHAT'S THIS ALL MEAN
NOW? YOU KNOW HOW
MANY PEOPLE ARE
COUNTING ON YOU AND
HOW MANY LIVES YOU
COULD POSSIBLY AFFECT
IN THE NEXT FEW
YEARS?

I KNOW,
THAT'S WHY
I'M ASKING
FOR YOUR
HELP.

SO THIS
IS WHY THEY
CAME AFTER ME.
WHY THEY KILLED THOSE
REPORTERS. THEY KNEW
ABOUT THIS. ABOUT
YOU BEING THIS...
THIS...

SPAWN.
THAT'S THE NAME
I'VE BEEN
GIVEN.

AND, YES.
I'M SURE THAT'S
WHY THEY CAME.
THEY PROBABLY
KNOW MORE
ABOUT ME THAN
I DO.





"I COULD TELL HE WAS SCARED. NOT ABOUT ME, BUT ABOUT EVERYTHING BECAUSE HE DIDN'T HAVE CONTROL OVER ANY OF IT. AND I KNEW EXACTLY HOW HE FELT. THAT'S WHY I NEEDED TO BE AS TRUTHFUL WITH HIM AS I COULD. IT TOOK ME NEARLY TWENTY MINUTES."

...CERTAIN PEOPLE HAD THOSE PIECES TO MY PAST. I WAS JUST TRYING TO SORT THROUGH WHAT WAS FACT AND WHAT WAS FICTION.

WHAT ABOUT HER? WAS SHE REAL?

SHE WAS. BUT SHE DIED BECAUSE OF ME. I INFILTRATED PAIN ON A LOT OF PEOPLE UNDER THE GUISE OF SCIENCE, CREATING AND ENCOURAGING ALL SORTS OF VICIOUS EXPERIMENTS. I WAS DOCTOR FRANKENSTEIN. AND WHEN THEY WOULDN'T GIVE ME ANY MORE PATIENTS... I EXPERIMENTED ON MYSELF.



I BECAME MY OWN FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER ...

THIS PICTURE JUST REMINDS ME OF THAT UGLY PAST. ONE I DON'T PLAN ON VISITING EVER AGAIN.

RIPPP



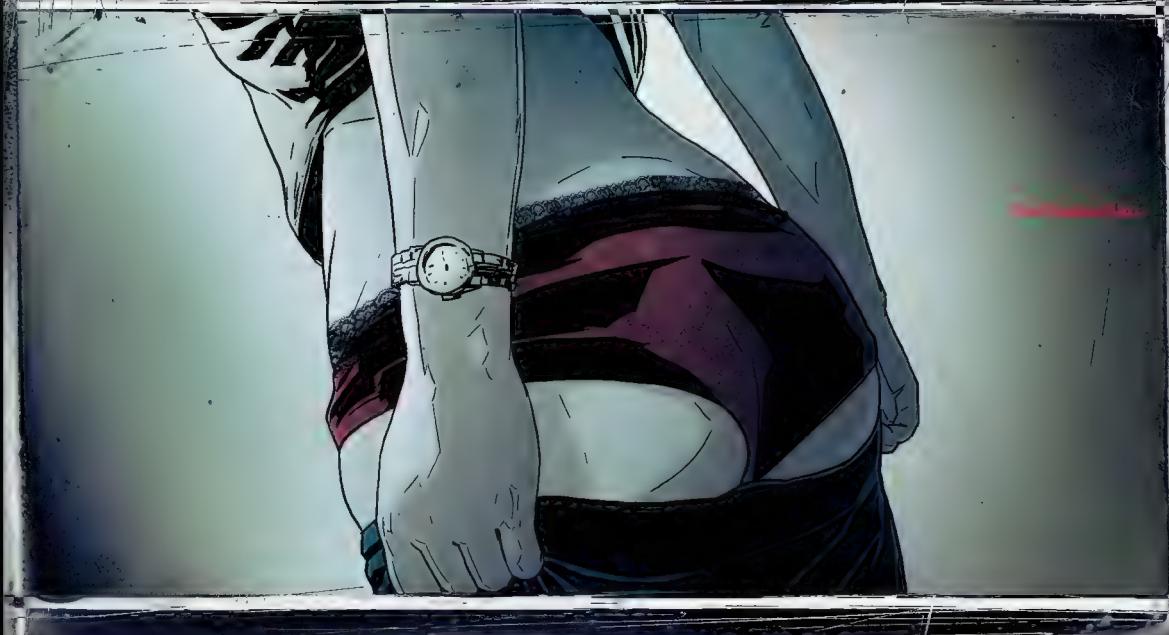
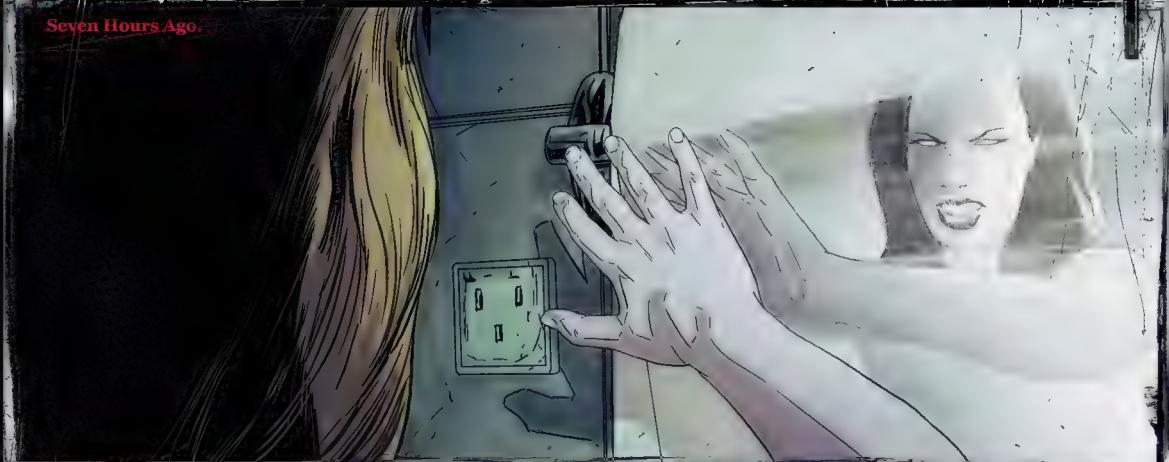




Seven and a Half Hours Ago.



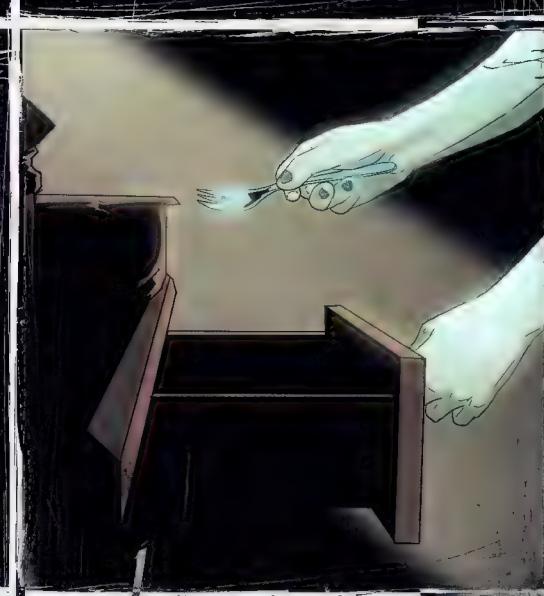
Seven Hours Ago.





light

hurts



ZZKTKTKTKTK POP!



Five Hours Ago...







"IT WAS TRYING TO BLANKET HER ENTIRE APARTMENT EVERYWHERE I LOOKED I COULD SEE IT BUT WORSE I FELT IT! I FELT THE DEEP CHILL OF ITS SHADOWY POWERS ATTEMPTING TO FUSE ITSELF TO MY SOUL AND MY COSTUME WAS BEGGING IT TO COME"

"I DON'T KNOW WHY I ACTED SO RECKLESSLY. MY SUBCONSCIOUS MUST HAVE ALREADY KNOWN. THEN I SAW IT CRAWLING AND Oozing down the wall like some black inky tendrils. The evil from the Black had come back with us somehow."

*Issue 244--Todd

"THAT WASN'T GOING TO HAPPEN! I HADN'T FORGOTTEN WHAT COGLIOSTRO SAID."



"IF YOU
BRING THE
COSTUME ON FIRST,
IT CAN'T HARM YOU.
IF IT COMES WITHOUT
YOUR BLESSING--
IT'LL TRY TO DESTROY
YOU. YOU MUST
MASTER IT!
CONTROL IT!"

"SO I WELCOMED IT! FOR THE FIRST TIME I WANTED TO BE CLOAKED IN THAT BLACK AND RED ARMOR BECAUSE AT THAT MOMENT I WANTED TO RETURN EVERY OUNCE OF PAIN THAT HELL HAD PUT UPON ME!"

"THEY WERE NOT GOING TO DO THIS TO SARAH! THEY MAY HAVE TAKEN HER BODY, BUT GOD DAMN IT THEY WEREN'T GETTING HER SOUL!"



"NO MATTER HOW
MUCH THEY WANTED IT
OR WANTED ME"

"TONIGHT THEY WERE
GETTING NOTHING!"



SLURK

NO!

TINK



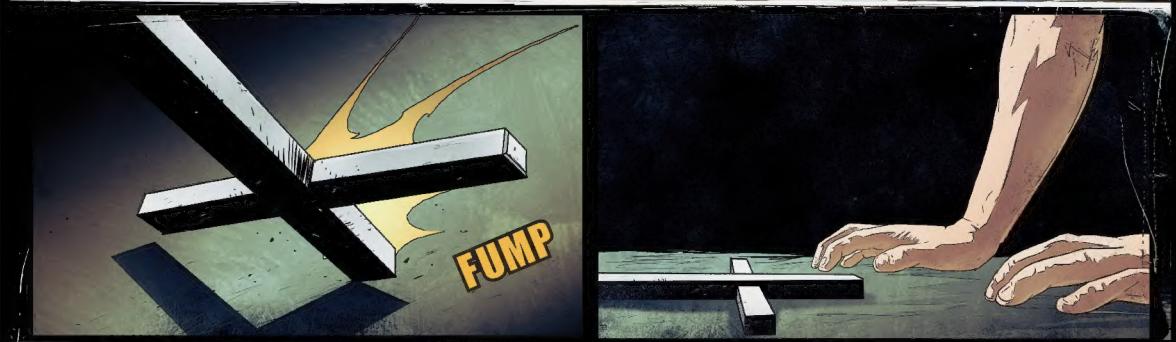
TRY IT!
GO
AHEAD...!

I'D RATHER SEE HER
DEAD BEFORE MAKING
HER ENDURE THAT
DARKNESS AGAIN!

YOU
MAKE A
MOVE AND I'LL
KILL YOU
RIGHT HERE!!

YOU
HEAR
ME, SARA?
I'LL GUT YOU
BEFORE
YOU EVEN
MOVE!

BECUSE THIS THING
IN FRONT OF ME WASN'
SARA! IT WASN'T!!





DON'T
YOU TURN
AWAY! NOT AFTER
WHAT YOU'VE
DONE! LOOK
AT ME!



DO YOU
KNOW WHO
I AM? WHO
I WAS?

I'M
SIMMONS!
DOWNING'S
GONE!



BUT I'M
COMING FOR
THEM! YOU TELL THEM
THAT! TELL THEM VERY
SOON, AL SIMMONS IS
COMING AFTER EACH
AND EVERY ONE OF
THEM! WITH A
VENGEANCE!

NOW
LEAVE HER
BE!



THE WALKERS--
THEY'RE COMING!
ALONG THE RIVER BANK!
ABOUT A THOUSAND
OF THEM!

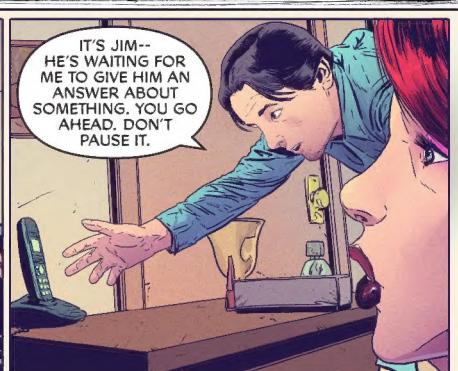
WHERE'S
MICHONNE
AND RICK?

DARYL SAID
THEY TOOK THE
CAR INTO TOWN
LOOKING FOR
SUPPLIES.

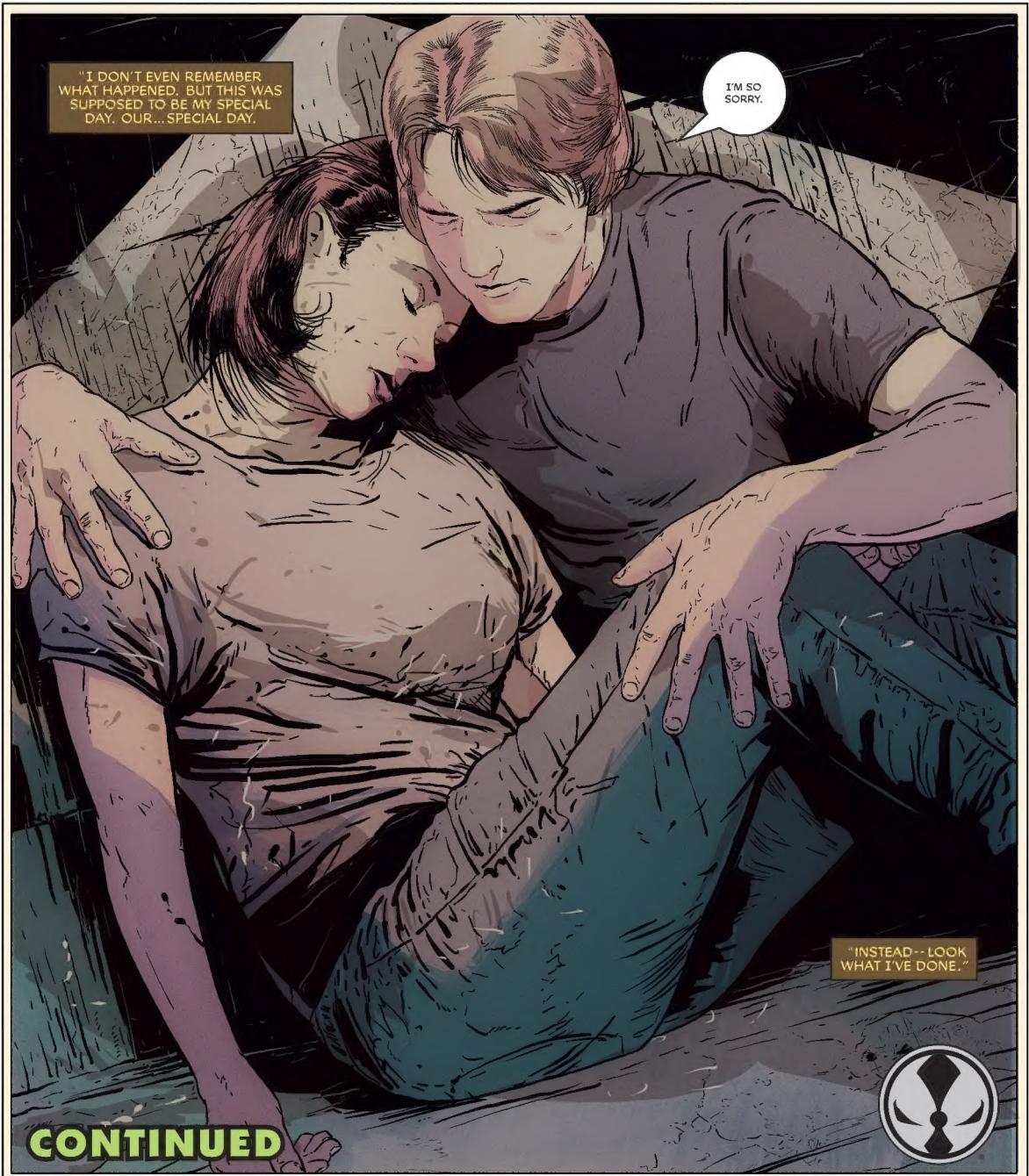


BLEEP BLEEP
BLEEP BLEEP

DON'T
ANSWER IT!
THIS IS THE GOOD
PART. I SAW
IT ON THE
COMMERCIAL.



IT'S JIM--
HE'S WAITING FOR
ME TO GIVE HIM AN
ANSWER ABOUT
SOMETHING. YOU GO
AHEAD. DON'T
PAUSE IT.



CONTINUED





EMPIRE